

Finn's Settlement Explorer Field Journal

Learning objective: To identify, describe, and compare different types of human settlements and the reasons for their location.

Finn the dolphin has been mapping the land! Use this journal to investigate a local settlement. Choose a town or village you know well and use your geographical knowledge to complete the sections below. Be as descriptive as possible to show off your understanding of land use and human geography.

Word bank: infrastructure · urbanisation · commercial · residential · topography · amenities · sustainable · settlement hierarchy

1. Settlement Classification: Is your chosen area a hamlet, village, town, or city? Describe the characteristics that helped you decide on this classification. (3 marks)

2. Location Factors: Explain why people originally settled in this specific location. Consider natural resources, water supply, or defensive positions. (4 marks)

3. Land Use Zones: Describe the different zones in your settlement. Where are the residential areas compared to the commercial or industrial areas? (3 marks)

4. Compare and Contrast: Compare your chosen settlement to a contrasting area (e.g., a bustling city versus a remote rural village). What are the main differences in their infrastructure? (4 marks)

5. Justify your answer: If you were planning a new sustainable housing development, where would you build it and why? Consider the impact on local transport links. (5 marks)

6. What might happen if: Imagine the population of your chosen settlement doubled in the next five years. What challenges would the local infrastructure face? (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Design a 'Future-Proof' settlement map. Include sustainable features such as community gardens, renewable energy sources, and efficient public transport links. Write a short paragraph justifying why your design is beneficial for both the environment and the local community.